

The Messenger.

State Levy

"EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL; SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO NONE."

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No. 50.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF NORTH CAROLINA KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

JUST A WORD OR TWO.

When you hear a member of the order speaking ill of another member, tell him he is not living up to his pledge of Knighthood.

When you hear a member making charges against the honesty or character of another, tell him that it is his duty to the Order to place the charges before the proper Court for trial, and that no defamation of character is permissible within the folds of the Order.

When you hear of a member of your Assembly doing that which is not right speak to him frankly, as a brother should; ask him if the report is true, and, if it is, advise him to do differently before peddling the affair through the streets.

When you know that a member is being wronged, it is your duty to warn him, and, if possible, have the wrong undone.

When you see a man who labors for a living struggling hard to make both ends meet, it is the duty of a man to lend a helping hand, no matter whether he is a Knight or not.

When you hear that labor is divided and is fighting its own interests, deny the rumor, and then do what you can to prove that you were right in making the denial.

When you read an interview in a paper in which a member of the Knights of Labor speaks ill of another Knight, tell him he has broken his pledge. We have Courts in which to try members for offences, and the public press has never been constituted the court of this Order for the trial of a member for any misdeeds.

If others are engaged in attempting to tear down the Knights of Labor, lend them no assistance by ceasing in your efforts to build it up.

The future welfare of the toiling masses of America to-day is centered in the Knights of Labor more than in any other Order on this continent, and the man or woman who would now destroy the hope of millions deserves the hatred and scorn of future ages.

Now that suspended and defunct Assemblies are reviving, old members returning, and new ones coming in, it becomes the duty of each assembly to make the meetings so interesting that interest will not die out in the good work. Appoint committees to meet and study up the best means of raising the standard of American labor to its proper level; then, when the committee makes its report, discuss it temperately and carefully, so that the best possible results will be reached; do not make a motion to receive and file the report of the committee, and never give it a thought again—act on it at once, and keep on acting.

Each Assembly should be able to answer the following questions on call from headquarters: How many children are engaged in mills, shops and factories under your place? How many are working under the age below which children should not work in your State? Are rents reasonable, too high, or are they extortionate in your city or town?

In what proportion is property assessed in your locality—does the poor man pay as high a rate of taxation for his improved lot as the wealthy man? Does the man who holds town lots, waiting for your labor to increase their value before selling, pay as high a rate of taxation for the property which your labor is making valuable as you pay on

your property? If not why does he not do so? Why should a man hold a piece of land and refuse to sell it until population increases so that he can demand a fabulous price for it? Is it his labor or the labor of the community which increases the value of his lot? If the latter, why should he not pay some of the taxes of the community which enriches him?

Should workingmen own stock in corporations? If not why not?
T. V. POWDERLY.

FOR THE LEGISLATURE.

HOPE MILLS, N. C., April 10, 1888.

—MR. EDITOR: Through the MESSENGER permit me to say to the voters of Cumberland county that I wish to present for their consideration the name of Warren Carver for the legislature. Mr. Carver is in all respects well qualified to make a good legislator and if put on the republican ticket for the House of Representatives will carry a considerable vote which no other man can and thereby make the result in this county less doubtful, and if elected will not go to Raleigh as a dead head to sulk or brood over the dead issues of the past, but will go to work with gloves off for the best interests of the people of his county and State and if we judge the future by the past republicans and the laboring masses may not expect to have their interest neglected by him, as he was the first man in this county to ever openly declare in favor of the interest of the oppressed by advocating a ten hour labor system in this State. Rockfish has been in the past an important factor in republican politics and our first choice is Warren Carver and the township may be looked to for an unprecedented large majority. Having no ulterior aim on your for the space I have already taken than that many of your readers are republicans,
I remain respectfully yours,
A ROCKFISH REPUBLICAN.

If this country was to be invaded by a foreign enemy to-morrow, would there be a railroad president or director, or such men as are sent to the United States Senate to make laws found in the to it rank of danger? They, like penitentiary convicts, would be at home under protection furnished by the hard-fisted sons of toil. Yet in time of peace the railroad president, director, banker and penitentiary convict are engaged in a relentless war upon labor. When with the worth of the nation—its price in peace and protection in war—the recognized and accorded its rights? When labor, through organization, education and co-operation, forces recognition from those who are now withholding it, and not before.—Workman.

Wealth, and not in material and moral worth, is the standard of greatness with too many in this free democratic land. The mechanic and laborer's opinion on questions affecting the public weal is not to be considered, judging from the newspaper interviews we have seen lately. Banker, broker, merchant, manufacturer, lawyer, all beneficiaries of labor, have their say, but the mechanic and laborer are left out. This cannot always last, and perhaps the change will come before the end of the present century.—Southern Industry.

The Bellaire, O., blast furnace has advanced the wages of its workmen ten percent without being asked to do so.

Every honest man, no matter what his politics may be, what his religion may be, or what his financial condition may be, will find a hearty welcome in the Knights of Labor. The order is not a political clap net to advocate the interests of politicians or parties, nor should the members be expected to follow in the trail of every one who may choose to run for office and declare himself ready to bust open with love for the workingmen. The order has nothing to do with politics as an order, and only seeks to educate men to vote for their own interest. It tells our people in all discussions of labor in all its interests what qualifications a man should possess to make him worthy of the suffrage of the people, but does not undertake to say that republicans, democrats or any other party man possess those qualifications, nor is such a course reasonable or consistent with the work of the order. A man can be in sympathy with labor and render labor a great service, and be a party man too, but no workingman should vote for an unworthy man simply because he is a party nominee.—Labor Herald.



ROSE & LEAK'S Letter to Workingmen.

ED. MESSENGER. Rose & Leak take pleasure in telling your many readers that their Stock of New Spring Goods is now in store and ready for inspection. It embraces every article usually found in a first-class establishment. And as Rose & Leak's motto has always been "Live and let live," their prices will be found to be reasonable, and as low as goods of the quality they sell can be sold by any house.

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Yours respectfully,
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